

METHOD OF ADAPTING AN OPTICAL NETWORK TO PROVIDE LIGHTPATHS TO DYNAMICALLY ASSIGNED HIGHER PRIORITY TRAFFIC

ABSTRACT

- 5 A system and method for dynamically establishing lightpaths in an optical telecommunications network. The system implements tokens which are used to advertise the availability of receivers downstream. The tokens notify a source when a transmission fails. The tokens also include lightpath reservations and indicate priority of reservations. The innovative system preferably comprises a ring topology with chords that connect non-contiguous nodes of the ring.